

OTS Tracks

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY

WINTER 2004

State of California • Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
Business, Transportation and Housing Agency • Secretary Sunne Wright McPeak
Office of Traffic Safety • Deputy Director Christopher J. Murphy

California wraps up Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month



Uniformed officers serve non-alcoholic beverages to patrons at "COPtails" events across the state.

Joined by the California Highway Patrol and 25 regional "Avoid" programs statewide, the Office of Traffic Safety parlayed five regional "COPtails" events into forums against drinking while driving during *Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention (3D) Month* in December. The events were

designed to bring awareness of the perils of driving under the influence.

"COPtails" featured uniformed officers serving non-alcoholic beverages during the lunch hour following press events at Fat City Bar & Cafe (December 9 -

See 'Wrap-Up,' Page 7

Seat belt fines triple

The cost of not wearing a seat belt is expensive in terms of potentially losing a life and in the pocketbook as well.

As of January 1, 2004, the cost of a seat belt ticket more than tripled and can now run from \$78 to \$89 on a first offense, depending upon the county.

Legislation (AB 1625) authored by Assemblyman John Benoit allows penalty assessments and court costs to be added on top of a base fine. Translated, what used to cost \$22.50 on a first offense will now run more than three times that amount.



"Getting a seat belt ticket is not a trivial matter. It's serious, and drivers and vehicle occupants should look at it this way," said D.O. "Spike" Helmick, Commissioner of the California

See 'Seat Belt,' Page 7

California hosts 2004 Lifesavers conference

Traffic safety practitioners from around the country will meet March 28 - 30 at Lifesavers 2004, the largest U.S. conference on highway safety priorities. More than 1,500 individuals and professionals will attend the conference at the Town & Country Resort & Conference Center in San Diego.

"Lifesavers attracts the best and the brightest minds in the traffic safety arena," said Sunne Wright McPeak, Secretary of the California Business, Transportation & Housing Agency, which oversees the Office of Traffic Safety. "California is very proud to host this premier national conference on highway safety issues."



Innovative workshops ranging from impaired driving, occupant protection, criminal justice, data and research and child passenger safety will be featured during the three-day affair. Lifesavers also provides opportunities to network with safety professionals from across the nation.

Lifesavers will also feature more than 150 national traffic safety exhibitors, ranging from companies that manufacture child restraint systems to the latest in high-technology traffic safety products. The automobile and insurance industries, a full range of non-profit traffic safety advocacy groups and traffic safety offices from around the country will also be on hand.

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Secretary's Message



BT&H Secretary
Sunne Wright McPeak

Serving the people of California

One of California's most enduring qualities is its ability to renew itself constantly by offering endless possibilities to those who live, work and make their future here.

As the Secretary for the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency — representing 14 departments, a \$12.4 billion combined budget and 47,000 employees — I want to ensure that each of California's 33 million residents shares in that dream.

We are witnessing a new day in California. As a result, the Agency has an historic opportunity to turn that dream into reality for every Californian. These departments, and their employees, represent the heart of state government. Business, transportation and housing: what could be more fundamental to the state's economy, reckoned as the fifth largest in the world, and to the lives of its individual citizens?

Departments within this Agency build the state's roads and public transportation system, enforce its laws, license its drivers and make its mobility system safer. We help finance people's homes, regulate banking institutions and the state's booming real estate establishment. We have a hand in controlling the sales of alcoholic beverages, managing its health care and patients, as well as operating the state government's computer network.

In short, we play a leading role in a diverse set of government functions. Yet, we have one major mission in common: to serve and touch the lives of individual Californians.

One of our most pressing challenges is to rebuild the state's aging infrastructure, which include such institutions as hospitals, schools and transportation facilities, just to name a few.

For example, California's 15,000 miles of state highways have historically been seen not merely as the state's lifeline, but also as the gateway to the rest of America and the world. In California, where one job in seven is linked to international trade, we move some \$800 billion in commodities every year. The state is a gateway to the world. In 2000, more than 16 percent of the nation's exports went through California.

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has nearly \$6 billion in highway construction underway this year. That's a major shot in the arm for the state's economy. An investment of \$1 billion in construction supports more than 26,000 full-time jobs and generates almost \$3 billion in California's economic activity.

With 21,000 employees, Caltrans is the largest department in the Agency. It works with local and regional transportation partners to improve mobility across California, by connecting affordable housing to jobs through a network of roads, rail and public transportation.

In fact, all the BT&H departments continue to cooperate with local and regional partners to provide a high level of service to the public. They recognize that regional cooperation is essential. We are not independent entities. Rather, we are Californians working toward common goals.

Every department within the agency has an important role to play. The California Highway Patrol (CHP), with its 7,000 uniformed officers, keeps watch of our highways and provides easier access for trucks from either side of the international border.

The Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) obtains and administers traffic safety grants, helping to reduce deaths, injuries and property damage that result from traffic collisions.

See 'Secretary,' Page 6

CHP lauded for outstanding work

During 2003, the California Highway Patrol was honored with seven awards by three national and international organizations for its work in saving lives and streamlining its operations.

The three awards were given by the Police Executive Research Forum, International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) and jointly by the Center for Digital Government and *Government Technology* magazine.

The most prestigious of the awards was the Herman Goldstein Award for Excellence in Problem-Oriented Policing. Agencies nationally and internationally compete for the Goldstein Award, which is given out by the Police Executive Research Forum.

The CHP's winning entry was its *Safety and Farm Labor Vehicle Education* (SAFE)

See 'CHP,' Page 7

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor

BUSINESS, TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING AGENCY

Sunne Wright McPeak, Secretary

OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY

Christopher J. Murphy, Deputy Director

Mike Marando, Editor

Janet Lane, Associate Editor

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<http://www.ots.ca.gov>

OTS Tracks

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Winter 2004



Deputy Director's Column

The way we conduct business at OTS will soon be changing. As a department within the Business, Transportation and Housing (BT&H) Agency, OTS is working hard to implement Secretary Sunne Wright McPeak's "Performance Improvement Initiative" which includes working strategically, efficiently, enhancing customer service and ensuring accountability.



I am personally committed to making sure this new vision is carried out and embraced. What does this mean? It means eliminating waste and inefficiencies. It means eliminating unnecessary grantee reports and requirements. It means enhancing customer service and ensuring accountability. OTS is currently conducting an exhaustive review of the way we conduct our internal and external business. We will begin implementing changes to streamline processes and eliminate waste immediately.

As we look to the future, OTS will continue to serve as a thought-leader for traffic safety. We will fund results-driven programs and look for long-term partnerships to positively impact our communities, as well as look for ways to continuously improve our operation. OTS is dedicated to being flexible, forward-thinking, customer friendly and accountable to the public. Our office understands that to succeed we must be open to new ideas, supportive of those working in the field and aggressive in attaining the federal funding California deserves.

As OTS Deputy Director, I am committed to our mission, our vision and making California an even safer place to live. I wish all Californians safe travel in 2004.

Christopher J. Murphy, Deputy Director

Jolly made Director of ABC

Jerry R. Jolly has been appointed as Director of the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, announced by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in mid-February.

Jolly rose through the ranks, starting with the Department as an investigator in 1975. He also served two years as Acting Director for the Office of Real Estate Appraisers before returning to ABC as Assistant Director for the Northern Division. Jolly has served as Acting Director for ABC since 2001.

He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy, and graduated from the California State University, Long Beach, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice. He is a member of the California Peace Officers' Association and the FBI National Academy Association. ●

Bust sinks frat party early; seven arrested for illegal alcohol sales

A party hosted in October by a Long Beach State University fraternity house aboard the Grand Romance riverboat ended with the arrest of seven people, five of whom were minors under the age of 21.

But that's just part of the story.



The Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control worked closely with local law enforcement to respond to the threat of 350 partygoers, many of whom were underage.

Party organizers inadvertently tipped off an undercover investigator with the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC), through an invitation in the mail.

As ABC arrest teams stood by, undercover operators watched as scores of oblivious minors purchased and guzzled blue drinks (alcoholic beverages) from the boat's bar. Fraternity parties have historically attracted mobs of underage drinkers, and the shindig on board the Grand Romance was no exception.

"This is a good example of ABC working closely with local law enforcement and the California State University System to reduce underage and binge drinking," said Jerry R. Jolly, Director for ABC.

After the ABC arrest teams boarded the vessel, the Long Beach Police Department responded to the potential threat of 350 "Mad Greek" partygoers who were ordered off the boat so the criminal investigation could be completed.

Jolly noted that a recent study by the American Medical Association indicates that more than 10.7 million underage youth drink alcoholic beverages and 7.2 million admit to binge drinking. He added the ABC/CSU Partnership Grant, funded through the Office of Traffic Safety, provided an important tool in the effort to reduce access of alcohol to minors.

The Grand Romance is a three-story charter vessel berthed in Long Beach Harbor, styled after a Mississippi River boat and licensed by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control. ●



Grantees

Sharing the Road



PBS TO AIR DUI CAPSULE REPORT

California Connected, a weekly news magazine program broadcasted on PBS stations across California, will air a capsule report DUI in late February or early March. The program will focus on Real DUI Trials, held at high schools in Santa Clara County. California Connected sent a reporter and a filmographer to the January 14 trial at Pioneer High School, reports event organizer and spokeswoman, **Christina Oshinsky**, of the Santa Clara County Public Health Department.

AVOID THE 55

The *Avoid the 55* project is a collaboration between the *Avoid the 25* coalition of law enforcement agencies in San Bernardino County and the *Avoid the 30* coalition in Riverside County. The *Avoid the 55* conducted its kick-off media event December 19, 2003 in Ontario, California, during which Christopher Murphy, OTS Deputy Director, was the keynote speaker addressing the resolute commitment to significantly reducing DUI through abundant grant funding to CHP, ABC and local agencies. CHP **Chiefs John Fogerty** (Inland Division) and **Skip Carter** (Border Division) were on hand, along with representatives from the

of the OTS funded Evidential Portable Alcohol Systems (EPAS) devices in 46 counties. Once trained, the DOJ delivers the EPAS to the agencies including CHP, ABC and local law enforcement agencies. The EPAS devices allow peace officers to collect breath evidence right at the scene of the incident, hence advancing efficiency in keeping peace officers on the street rather than transporting suspects for evidence collection elsewhere. DOJ has fielded over six hundred devices with a remaining four hundred devices either to be used for training or further deployed as training is completed. Several agencies now using the EPAS devices have reported to OTS with high praise on their ease of use and value in supporting DUI prosecution.

HOLIDAY SOBRIETY CHALLENGE

On December 19, 2003, law enforcement agencies in the counties of Solano, Napa, Sonoma and Marin in conjunction with the California Highway Patrol and Infineon Raceway hosted the Holiday Sobriety Challenge. The event was sponsored by and held at Infineon Raceway (Sonoma County). The event featured several participating local luminaries: Giants' pitcher **Jesse Foppert**; Petaluma Mayor (and former Giants broadcaster) **David Glass**; Sonoma City Councilmember **Doug McKesson**; Fairfield Vice Mayor **Harry Price**; and former tennis pro **Brad Gilbert**, who is now coaching top-ranked **Andy Roddick**. The Holiday Sobriety

Challenge is a unique event designed to raise the awareness of sporting world celebrities, Mayors, City Council Members and County Supervisors and other municipal and county dignitaries regarding the dangers of drinking and driving. This event graphically demonstrates to participants the impairment in driving ability due to alcohol consumption, even at levels well below the established .08 legal threshold of "drunk driving."

U.S. AIR FORCE THUNDERBIRDS JOIN SALINAS P.D.

Monterey Airport was the scene for a late fall media event sponsored by the **Salinas Police Department**. Salinas PD was joined by the United States Air Force



The Thunderbirds joined the Salinas Police Department in promoting seat belt usage to focus on NHTSA's National Seat Belt campaign.

Thunderbirds pilots. Thunderbirds Solo pilot Major Todd Canterbury spoke about the importance of seatbelt usage to focus on NHTSA's National Seat Belt campaign. The Thunderbirds performed at the California International Airshow in Salinas. Salinas PD **Chief Daniel Ortega** was front and center.

WELCOME LT. COL. CHANDLER

Speaking of the Thunderbirds for 2004, **Lieutenant Colonel Michael Chandler** assumed command and will be the Lead pilot of the Air Force fighter jet demonstration team, succeeding **Lieutenant Colonel Richard 'Spad' McSpadden**, whose term as Commander/Leader ended in February. Traffic safety practitioners will recall that McSpadden appeared in the OTS Web site streaming video PSA in English and Spanish advocating bicycle helmet usage. This video reached hundreds of thousands of visitors to the OTS Web site. McSpadden blessed the PA support for various photo shoots at Nellis AFB, Nevada, with peace officers and Thunderbirds pilots and crew chiefs for various bike helmet campaigns and further with about 185 California peace officers at the Ventura Naval Air Station, Point Mugu. ●



This billboard was a collaboration between San Bernardino County's Avoid the 25 coalition and Riverside County's Avoid the 30 coalition.

Riverside and San Bernardino County Sheriff's Departments, under the direction of **Sheriffs Bob Doyle** and **Gary Penrod**, as all three organizations pledged to fight DUI. Motorists can also see anti-DUI billboards through the *Avoid the 55* area.

EPAS HIT THE STREETS

The Department of Justice, Bureau of Forensic Sciences, is making significant progress in training peace officers in the use

OTS' Operations Unit covers California

The dynamic people of the Office of Traffic Safety's Operations Unit often boast that they have the best jobs in state service. Together, this group comprises the "front line" of contact to California's seven traffic safety regions.

"Aside from working with such a great group of people in the office, they get to travel the state and work hand in hand with great people throughout California who are all dedicated to saving lives on our roadways," says Marilyn Sabin, Assistant Director of Operations.

It is a rarity to find a department where employees stay put for years. Sabin, who has led by example, came to OTS 27 years ago. The newest person in the Operations Unit, Karen Coyle, has been there for two years. Arnie Trotter, who retired in December worked in Operations for 30

years, retired and returned as a retired annuitant for three years (see related story, this issue). "I am fortunate to supervise this group and feel that we are all part of the OTS family," says Sabin.

As the years pass, Sabin has watched some of the staff become parents and then grandparents. She has also witnessed first hand the staff's commitment to bring California to the top of the nation in many traffic safety endeavors. As traffic priorities change and new programs evolve, the OTS Regional Coordinators eagerly accept their newfound responsibilities and continue to creatively develop innovative ways to keep California a step ahead.



OTS' Operations Unit serves as the "front line" of contact for California's traffic safety regions.

Operations staff includes (left to right): Patricia Mora Rey, Dennis Hall, Marilyn Sabin, Suzi Haywood, Arnie Trotter, Kim Garcia, Victoria Behbahani, Michele Meadows, Jeff Hammond, Karen Coyle, David Doucette and John Kirkham (not pictured Mark Bertacchi). John Kirkham, who previously oversaw the San Diego region, is now special projects coordinator. ●

Candid Comments A Life Interrupted

By Tim Taylor



The Bakersfield Police Department, in partnership with the California Highway Patrol, developed a multimedia presentation titled, *A Life Interrupted*. This thought-provoking program, aimed at teen drivers, offers proof that poor personal decisions, while either behind the wheel or seated in the passenger seat of an automobile, can and do result in the severest of consequences.

The program was developed jointly by the Bakersfield Police Department and the California Highway Patrol after two officers independently noticed a tragic trend in local teenage traffic deaths.

Together, they collected the personal stories of the victims and their families; then began the task of presenting these stories to as many local high schools and youth groups as possible in an effort to stop the auto related deaths of our local teens. Their first presentation was held in the fall of 2002.

As the program begins, a gymnasium or auditorium of rowdy and boisterous teens quickly turns silent as they listen to actual 911 dispatch tapes reporting the crashes that killed someone they once knew, or were their own age.

The program culminates with many parents of the teens killed in these collisions offering their personal insights and the sense of loss they feel because of the death of their son or daughter. The audience then has the opportunity to inspect a vehicle involved in one of these fatal crashes. They see firsthand how drugs and/or alcohol, speed, bad decisions, the slightest amount of inattention or the lack of seatbelts can create a formula for tragedy.

This was not a program crafted and implemented by law enforcement administrators. This is a program created by two dedicated officers who recognized a problem and cared enough about their communities and its youth to do something about it. While they may not have captured a robbery suspect or stopped a violent assault; they just as importantly may have insured that every parent in this community got to see their son or daughter graduate this spring.

As a result of their tremendous community contribution, both officers were honored by the Kern County Law Enforcement Association and received the Exceptional Officer Award for Community Service for 2003. For more information, please contact Officer Don Cegielski or Sergeant Gary Moore at the Bakersfield Police Department at (661) 326-3882. ●

Tim Taylor is a Lieutenant with the Bakersfield Police Department.

OTS staffers Trotter, Netzel call it a career

Two key staffers — Arnie Trotter and Judy Netzel — retired from the Office of Traffic Safety in December 2003 after State of California careers that spanned more than 44 and 25 years, respectively.

“Both of these individuals are quality people who have put in a stellar career,” said OTS Deputy Director, Christopher Murphy. “We’re certainly going to miss them.”

Trotter’s State career began at the State Reclamation Board in 1955, and from there moved to the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) before joining OTS in 1973. He retired in 2000 and has worked for OTS as a retired annuitant since.

“What I’ll miss the most is the great people and staff at OTS,” said the native of Grand Island, Nebraska. “It’s hard to believe the time came and went so fast.”

As a regional coordinator specializing in alcohol related grants, Trotter proudly boasts that he once served OTS in the capacity of Alcohol Manager. Joining OTS as what was once known as a Traffic Safety Coordinator, Trotter coordinated multiple alcohol related task forces, most notably the California Highway Patrol Alcohol Task Force. Although Trotter is sad to say goodbye to his career at OTS, he looks forward to spending more time with his wife, Rosemary, and their two grandchildren, Tamara and Evan, whom they are raising. During the times when the kids are in school, he and Rosemary can sneak away to do a little golfing and just enjoy each other.

Netzel began her state career in 1969 with the Department of Real Estate. Two years later she met and married her husband Ed, with whom they had two children, Erica and James.

The family moved to Texas when Ed was reassigned from Travis Air Force Base in Fairfield, but came back to the Sacramento area in the late 1970s. Judy resumed her State career in 1979 working for the Legislature, and joined OTS in 1981 as an assistant to then-director, Tom Lankard.

“What I’ll miss most are the people,” said Netzel. “I’ve been blessed to have worked for an office whose core mission is to save lives. I’m very proud of that.”

A native of Little Falls, Minnesota, Netzel is already enjoying the fruits of her labor. She and Ed are spending a lot of time with their granddaughters Alyssa, Megan and Ashley. “This is what it’s all about,” she said. The couple also do a lot of scrapbooking as well. ●



Judy Netzel, who began her state career in 1969 with the Department of Real Estate, spent 23 years at OTS.



Arnie Trotter's stellar career with the State of California included nearly 30 years at OTS.

‘Secretary,’ from Page 2

And the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) strives to make the State Highway System safer by licensing drivers and helping to weed out unsafe ones.

Six departments play vital roles in financing and in making home ownership an achievable dream for Californians. For example, the Department of Corporations licenses and regulates securities brokers and financial planners, while the Department of Financial Institutions (DFI) oversees state-chartered financial institutions.

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) advocates for housing, develops building codes for manufactured homes, administers loans and provides information on housing and mortgage financing. The California Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA) helps to provide affordable loans and mortgage insurance to families with moderate incomes.

Sister agencies, the Department of Real Estate (DRE) and Office of Real Estate Appraisers (OREA), protect homebuyers whose homes represent the largest investment they will ever make during their lives.

In part through the effort and cooperation with these departments, California’s housing agency will continue to be a bright spot in the state economy. However, we must do more. In concert with regional planners, state transportation and housing planners can work together to establish “livable” and sustainable communities — where vehicles, public transportation, bicycles and pedestrians have a place in making neighborhoods stronger, safer and more enjoyable. Two other related departments are instrumental in health issues. The Department of Managed Health Care aggressively works toward an accountable managed health care system, while the Office of the Patient Advocate ensures that consumers’ needs are met in the managed health care field. By keeping Californians well, these two departments aid in keeping the California economy healthy and strong.

The Department of Alcoholic Beverages Control (ABC) has police powers over the manufacture, importation, distribution and sale of alcoholic beverages. Licensed outlets generate some \$500 million in state revenues.

And the Stephen P. Teale Date Center provides information technology services and products to state agencies — allowing all of us to do our jobs better and more productively.

Each of these departments has unique responsibilities. But they have a number of factors in common.

Each one of them plays a unique role in making California safer, more efficient and stronger. Every one is key in building up California’s aging infrastructure — estimated to need as much as \$100 billion in rehabilitation. And all play a part in building the state’s economy and making the state a magnet to the rest of the nation and the world.

I congratulate you each on your accomplishments, and challenge you to find even better ways to serve the people of California. And, I look forward to working with you to make California an even better place to live. ●

'Wrap-Up,' from Page 1

Sacramento); MoMo's Restaurant (December 10 - San Francisco); the Elephant Bar (December 11 - Fresno); the Daily Grille (December 16 - Los Angeles) and Moose McGillycuddy's (December 17 - San Diego).

"Drinking and driving is a crime," said CHP Commissioner D.O. "Spike" Helmick. "That's why the CHP worked with hundreds of law enforcement agencies across the state to conduct regional DUI checkpoints."



Table tents and non-alcoholic drink menus were new elements at the 2003 "COPtails" events to promote safe holiday celebrations as part of California's 3D Month campaign.

Participating law enforcement agencies included the following: Sacramento (*Avoid the 7*); San Francisco (*Avoid the 10, 13, 14, 21, 23 and 25*); Fresno (*Avoid the 6 and Avoid the 16*); Los Angeles (*Avoid the 50*) and San Diego (*Avoid the 14*).

As 2004 continues to unfold, statewide law enforcement will marshal together all its resources in a concerted effort to curb four consecutive years of increases in alcohol-related fatalities and injuries.

California has experienced a 32 percent increase in the number of people killed in alcohol-involved collisions since 1998.

The COPTails program, started by the Office of Traffic Safety in 2001 with a single event in Sacramento, drew consistent media coverage prior to and during the 14-day winter holiday DUI enforcement period that ran from December 19, 2003 through January 4, 2004. ●

'CHP,' from Page 2

program. SAFE, launched following an August 1999 collision in Central Division that killed 13 farm workers, was the top selection over five other finalists and 57 entries.

The Goldstein judges detailed the successes of SAFE, which included an 84 percent decline in farm labor vehicle fatalities and 59 percent drop in injuries.

Three other awards garnered by the CHP were part of the IACP National Chiefs Challenge. The Department won the Clayton J. Hall Memorial Award for overall best traffic enforcement agency nationally and internationally.

The CHP also received top ratings in its category — State Police and Highway Patrols of 1,001 or More Officers — and in Occupant Protection, which means safety belts and child safety seats. CHP Public Affairs also won two International Public Relations awards for best government publications for *Zenith* and *Perspectives*.

The other major CHP award was a Best of California award for Information Technology Collaboration among Organizations presented by the Center for Digital Government and *Government Technology* magazine. ●

'Lifesavers,' from Page 1

Several individuals and organizations will receive 2004 Awards for Public Service for their commitment and dedication to traffic safety, during a luncheon ceremony hosted by Jeffrey W. Runge, M.D., NHTSA Administrator, on the final day of the conference.

Deadline schedule: February 13 is the final day to register at the pre-conference price of \$200; effective February 14, the fee is \$275. Hotel reservations must be made by February 27. Cancellations must be in by March 5 (minus a \$25 fee), and March 12 is the last day to receive registrations by mail. After this date, attendees must register at the conference.

For updates on speakers and workshop schedules, please go to www.lifesaversconference.org ●

'Seat Belt,' from Page 1

Highway Patrol. "Buckling a seat belt takes less than two seconds — and is the simplest thing anyone can do to potentially save a life."

Other laws taking effect in 2004 include:

Teen Drivers: Teen drivers under 17 and six months of age must complete a driver education course before they can get an instruction permit (AB 1343/Spitzer). Under the old law, a 15-year old could get a permit if enrolled in a driver training program rather than having completed it.

Parents of DUI Teens: Parents of DUI teens face misdemeanor charges if the parents knowingly provide alcohol to anyone under 21 who then drives and causes a traffic collision (AB 1301/Simitian).

Red Light Cameras: AB 1022 (Oropeza) prohibits vendors who sell red-light cameras from being paid by communities on a per-ticket basis. Cities and counties who have red-light camera programs must assure that only citations reviewed and approved by law enforcement are mailed to violators.

A law passed in 2003 but does not take effect until 2005: Children who are required to be secured in safety seats will have to ride in the rear seat of a passenger vehicle (AB 1697/Pavley). There are several exemptions, including cases where there are other children in the back seat, where a restraint system cannot properly be installed or where there is no rear seat or the rear seat is rear- or side-facing. Infants of less than one year of age or weighing less than 20 pounds must ride in back, no exemptions, if there is an active passenger air bag. ●

CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY

March 28–30

LifeSavers Conference

San Diego, CA — Town and Country Hotel
www.lifesaversconference.org
Contact: Janet Lane, 916-262-0980

April 6–10

Teenwork Symposium

Santa Clara, CA — Santa Clara Marriott
For more information: www.teenwork.com
Contact: Pete Bellin, 559-733-6496

May 16–19

Safety 'N Kids Traffic Summit 2004

Universal City, CA — Hilton Hotel
For further information: www.safetynkids.org
Phone: 213-494-7899

September 26–29

Governor's Highway Safety Association Annual Meeting

Honolulu, HI
Contact: Jonathan Adkins, 202-789-9042

Fall 2004

Grant Writing Workshops

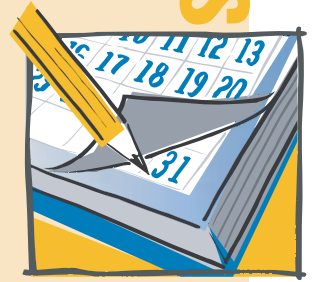
Sacramento, San Francisco, Los Angeles
[Venues and times to be announced]

November 7–10

Police Traffic Services Seminar

Palm Desert, CA
Marriott Desert Springs
Contact: Dave Doucette, 916-262-0957

WHAT'S



AHEAD



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OF TRAFFIC SAFETY**

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